

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the above-identified application in view of the foregoing amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action dated February 20, 2004 constituted a requirement for restriction, which divided this application into the following 3 groups:

<u>Group</u>	<u>Claims</u>	<u>Invention</u>
1	1-16 and 53-54	storing and mapping information, classified in class 707, subclass 6
2	17-46 and 55-56	database for sales information, classified in class 707, subclass 104.1
3	47-52 and 57-58	supplier's sales information through a network, classified in class 705, subclass 26

As between these groups, Applicants provisionally elect group 2. Claims 17-46 and 55-56 are readable on the elected group. This election is made with traverse, because it is respectfully asserted that there is no serious search burden if all the claims are examined. Should the Restriction be made final, Applicants expressly reserve the right to represent the non-elected groups (Claims 1-16, 47-54, and 57-58) in a divisional application, if necessary.

Claims 1-58 were pending in this application. By this paper, claims 1-16, 20, 22, 24-25, 27-28, 32, 34, 36-37, 39-54, and 56-58 have been cancelled and claims 17-19, 21, 23, 26, 29-31, 33, 35, 38, and 55 have been amended. For example, claim 17 has been amended to recite, *inter alia*, "condition displaying means for displaying a selection area in which a list of collecting and summing up methods of a plurality of procurement histories is displayed and a condition area to input a search condition on a display screen," "selection display means for

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displaying a collecting and summing up method selected from a list displayed in the selection area so as to be able to discriminate from the other collecting and summing up methods," "search means for searching said data base for sales record information from on a basis of an input condition input in the condition area," and "display control means for displaying the sales record information searched by said search means on the display means screen on a basis for the collecting and summing up method selected from the list of collecting and summing up methods." Support for these amendments is found throughout the application. No new matter will be added to this application by entry of these amendments.

Also accompanying this paper is a Petition and Amendment To Correct Inventorship Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.48(b). The inventors of the presently pending, amended claims are Takanori YOKOI, Suita MITSUO and Naka ITO.

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CONCLUSION

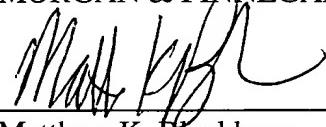
This application is respectfully asserted to be in condition for allowance. An early and favorable examination on the merits is requested. In the event that a telephone conference would facilitate the examination of this application in any way, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided.

THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY ADDITIONAL FEES WHICH MAY BE REQUIRED FOR THE TIMELY CONSIDERATION OF THIS AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 AND 1.17, OR CREDIT ANY OVERPAYMENT TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT NO. 13-4500, ORDER NO. 1232-4682.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: March 22, 2004

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